

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~predicting a response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer, comprising the following stages~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, the method comprising:

A - extracting the nuclear material from a biological specimen,

B - obtaining amplicons of at least one target sequence of the nuclear material with at least one pair of amplification primers, and

C - detecting the presence of said amplicons with at least one detection probe,

wherein said pair of primers comprises at least one amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~ consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID No. 1 to SEQ ID No. 20 and/or said detection probe ~~comprises at least 15~~ consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID No. 1 to SEQ ID No. 20.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said pair of primers is selected from the group consisting of the following pairs of primers:

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~ consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 1 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~ consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 2;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~ consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 3 and a second amplification primer

~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 4;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 5 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 6;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 7 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 8;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 13 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 14;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 15 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 16;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 17 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 18; and

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 19 and a second amplification primer

~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 20.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said pair of primers comprises at least one amplification primer comprising a promoter permitting the initiation of transcription by a polymerase of bacteriophage T7.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detection probe comprises a fluorophore and a quencher.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the target sequence comprises a gene selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, PGR, and HER2.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein stages B and C are carried out simultaneously.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a second pair of amplification primers is ~~used to~~ used to obtain amplicons specific to a housekeeping gene.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein one of the amplification primers for obtaining amplicons specific to a housekeeping gene comprises at least 15 nucleotide motifs of a sequence selected from SEQ ID No. 25 to 29.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said pair of amplification primers for obtaining amplicons specific to a housekeeping gene is selected from the group consisting of the following pairs of primers:

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 27 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 28; and

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 25 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 26.

10. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) An amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1–20 and 25–29.

11. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The amplification primer as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a promoter permitting the initiation of transcription by a polymerase of bacteriophage T7.

12. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A pair of amplification primers selected from the group consisting of the following pairs of primers:

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 1 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 2;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 3 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 4;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 5 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 6;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 7 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 8;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 13 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 14;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 15 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 16;

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 17 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 18; and

□ a first amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 19 and a second amplification primer ~~comprising at least 15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No. 20.

13. (Withdrawn) The pair of primers as claimed in claim 12, wherein said first primer further comprises a promoter permitting the initiation of transcription by a polymerase of bacteriophage T7.

14. (Withdrawn) An amplification method comprising using at least one amplification primer as claimed in claim 10 in a NASBA amplification reaction.

15. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A detection probe ~~comprising at least~~
~~15~~consisting of 15 to 100 nucleotide motifs of a nucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID
No. 1 to SEQ ID No. 20.

16. (Withdrawn) The detection probe as claimed in claim 15, further comprising a
fluorophore and a quencher.

17. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for ~~predicting a response of a~~
~~patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one
hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in
breast cancer tissue, comprising using at least one primer as claimed in claim 10.

18. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A kit for ~~predicting a response of a patient~~
~~to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one
hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in
breast cancer tissue, comprising at least one primer as claimed in claim 10.

19. (Withdrawn) An amplification method comprising using at least one
amplification primer as claimed in claim 11 in a NASBA amplification reaction.

20. (Withdrawn) An amplification method comprising using a pair of primers as
claimed in claim 12 in a NASBA amplification reaction.

21. (Withdrawn) An amplification method comprising using a pair of primers as
claimed in claim 13 in a NASBA amplification reaction.

22. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for ~~predicting a response of a~~
~~patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one
hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in
breast cancer tissue, comprising using at least one primer as claimed in claim 11.

23. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for ~~predicting a response of a~~
~~patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one

hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising using at least one pair of primers as claimed in claim 12.

24. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for ~~predicting a response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising using at least one pair of primers as claimed in claim 13.

25. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for ~~predicting a response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising using at least one detection probe as claimed in claim 15.

26. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for ~~predicting a response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising using at least one detection probe as claimed in claim 16.

27. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A kit for ~~predicting a response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising at least one primer as claimed in claim 11.

28. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A kit for ~~predicting a response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising at least one pair of primers as claimed in claim 12.

29. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A kit for ~~predicting a response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one

hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising at least one pair of primers as claimed in claim 13.

30. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A kit for ~~predicting a response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising at least one detection probe as claimed in claim 15.

31. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A kit for ~~predicting response of a patient to a treatment for breast cancer~~ detecting expression of genes encoding for at least one hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of ESR1, ESR2, HER2, and PGR in breast cancer tissue, comprising at least one detection probe as claimed in claim 16.